

FLAXTON
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1908.

YORK :
THE YORKSHIRE HERALD NEWSPAPER COMPANY, LIMITED.
1909.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
FLAXTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1908.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE FLAXTON
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my
Report for the year 1908 :—

The area of the District is 30,309 acres.

The population, 6,924.

BIRTH-RATE.

The births registered are 155, 77 males and 78 females. Of these, 4 males are illegitimate. The birth-rate is 22·3 per 1,000 per annum. This is the highest rate we have had during the last thirteen years; last year was the lowest, 16·4. The average for the previous ten years was 18·5. The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1908 is 26·5.

DEATH-RATE.

The deaths registered are 146, 83 males and 63 females. The rate is 21·0 per 1,000 per annum. For 1907 the rate was 30·4, and for the previous ten years the average was 22·4. Deducting the deaths occurring in the Public Institutions and adding the deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District, we get a total of 66 deaths, giving a rate of 9·5, which is the lowest for seven years. The death-rate for England and Wales for 1908 is 14·7. The Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births registered is 84. In 1907 it was 72. For England and Wales for 1908 it is 121 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1908.

There were 66 deaths, as follows (these do not include the deaths in Public Institutions):—Measles, 1; Diphtheria, 1; Influenza, 2; Diarrhœa, 2; Puerperal Fever, 1; Phthisis, 4; other Tubercular Diseases, 2; Cancer, 6; Bronchitis, 3; Pneumonia, 6; Premature Birth, 4; Diseases and Accidents of Parturition, 2; Heart Diseases, 8; Accidents, 2; all other causes, 22.

For the Flaxton locality there were 25 deaths, against 30 in 1907.

For the Dunnington locality there were 14 deaths, against 15 in 1907.

For the Skelton locality there were 27 deaths, against 36 in 1907.

North Riding Asylum, 75, against 122; Fever Hospital, 8, against 8 in 1907.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1908.

There were 37, against 54 in 1907:—Diphtheria, 15; Erysipelas, 6; Scarlet Fever, 5; Enteric Fever, 8; Puerperal Fever, 2.

SCARLET FEVER.—I am glad to state that there has been a marked decrease in the number of Scarlet Fever cases notified over the preceding year; in 1907 we had 34, whilst this year we have 5.

The first case was reported early in February, at Haxby, in a house where previously—the end of the year—Scarlet Fever existed. The infection was untraceable apart from this source. The second case occurred at Wigginton, on the 27th of June. The origin of the disease was indefinite; patient was at once removed to the Fever Hospital. The third and fourth cases occurred at New Earswick. Here, no doubt, from the history I gathered, the infection was imported from York. At Elmfield College, Malton Road, on December 4th, a boy was observed to be suffering from Scarlet Fever. On my visit I was unable

to trace the origin of the fever; the drainage of the School, however, might be improved upon. By means of early isolation into the York Fever Hospital of all the five cases, and by thorough stoving and disinfecting of houses, clothing, bedding, etc., we were able to effectually cut short the further spread of the disease.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Early in the year there was a case notified in a house at Haxby—an adult female. The drinking water was obtained from the York supply, and the sanitary condition of the house and premises was satisfactory. At the North Riding Asylum we have had 4 cases, mostly mild in character. They occurred irregularly from January to September, and were isolated in the Asylum Hospital. With the exception of one case, where the cause was attributable to defects in a drain-pipe under the patient's window, no definite cause could be found as to the origin of the outbreaks. The drinking water is quite free from sewage contamination.

On the 7th of May I visited Holtby, and examined a farmhouse from which 2 cases of Enteric Fever had been reported. Several insanitary conditions were found in connection with the dairy and farm premises, which were attended to by your Inspector. The drinking water, obtained from a pump well in the village street, was largely contaminated with sewage. This water was also condemned by Mr. Fairley, the Public Analyst. The leakage found from the main sewer into this well has been remedied, and I trust the inhabitants will now have a good and wholesome water supply. The pump water from the upper end of the village was analysed by Mr. Fairley, and found to be good. In this village also occurred another case in September—a girl 8 years of age, who was removed to the Fever Hospital. The house and premises were in a sanitary condition. There have been no deaths from Enteric Fever.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were 15 cases, 3 of which proved fatal. Six adults and 9 children were affected. Five occurred at Huntington, 3 at Strensall, 1 at Clifton, in the village, and another at the Asylum, 2 at Haxby, 1 in Stockton Lane, and 1 in Elmfield

College. The disease was prevalent in January and February, and then again from July to December. The first case occurred at West Huntington Hall, on January 4th. The Inspector and I could trace no local cause to account for the outbreak. The 4 subsequent cases, in one house at Huntington, contracted the infection from this source, 1 proving fatal. At this latter house, however, we found several insanitary conditions, which have since been abated. On the 20th of February a boy was notified from a farm-house at Clifton. The Inspector and I found several insanitary conditions, which were ordered to be remedied. A case occurred at the Clifton Asylum later in the year, which proved fatal; this patient was suffering from advanced Carcinoma. No local cause could be found, and similarly no cause could be traced in the case of an adult male notified in a house in the Stockton Lane. On the 16th of August a case was reported from a house on Haxby Moor—this was an imported one from Thirsk. We have had 3 notified from Strensall, 1 of which, at the Military Camp, was fatal. At the other house, in which the two lived, the insanitary conditions were such as to account for the outbreak; these nuisances have since had attention. On November 23rd there was a case at Haxby, and on December 3rd one at Elmfield College. In neither could any definite cause be traced. Five of the cases were removed to the Fever Hospital. Every precaution was taken by the Inspector in the way of stoving, disinfecting, etc.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—2 cases, 1 of which proved fatal; the other was of a very mild character. No insanitary conditions were found.

ERYSIPELAS.—Of the 7 cases notified, 4 occurred at the North Riding Asylum in demented patients of dirty habits, 1 at Osbaldwick, 1 at Lilling, and 1 at Claxton. All were adults; the disease was of a mild type. The sanitary conditions were satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLY OF DISTRICT.

Fifteen samples of water have been tested by me during the year, and 3 by Mr. Fairley, Public Analyst. Only 1 of the 18 was found free from contamination.

VILLAGE SEWERAGE.

A scheme has been prepared for the village of Strensall, and will shortly be submitted to the Local Government Board for their approval.

PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

As I have said in my Reports for some years, Public Scavenging is the best means of keeping ashpits and privies in a sanitary condition. It is not uncommon, in spite of the Inspector's supervision, to find ashpits, privies, etc., during the summer months in a foul and dangerous condition. The pan system of closet is, however, gradually being extended in your District, which is a great improvement on the old privy and ash-pit.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, &c.

Visits are systematically made every three or four months to every Cowshed and Dairy in the District. They are all registered, and, on the whole, are kept in a satisfactory sanitary condition. Three notices were, however, served during the year for the abatement of nuisances.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

Registers are kept by the Council of Workshops and Out-workers. They are visited regularly by the Inspector, and any defects found are at once remedied.

THE NEW EDUCATION ACT

(Medical Inspection of School Children)

has been in force during the year. It undoubtedly is of great advantage in assisting to improve the health and general condition of the children.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

ALWYN RAIMES, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.
Mill Mount,
York, February, 1909.

FLAXTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' ANNUAL REPORT,
1908.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

There have been 21 new houses erected and completed, ready for occupation, during the year, a considerable decrease on recent years.

At the instance of notice served to that effect, 1 house has been closed as unfit for habitation; 9 notices have been served as to defective drains; 4 as to defective privies and ashpits; 7 as to foul ditches; 3 as to offensive and putrid matter; 1 notice has been served under the Factory Acts.

Repeated inspections have been made under the Milkshops, Dairies, and Cowsheds Regulations, and 3 notices served as to defects thereunder.

Samples of water have been taken at Wigginton for analysis by the Public Analyst, and notices served to provide a wholesome and efficient supply, the owners and occupiers being very reluctant to avail themselves of the York Waterworks Co.'s water as laid through the village.

Samples of water from the two public wells in the village of Holtby have been submitted to the Public Analyst. The sample from the well at the lower end of the village was found to be unfit for drinking purposes; the sample from the well at the high end of the village, above the sewer, was found to be a fairly pure water. As a result, the main drain has been examined and found defective, and steps taken to make good the drain, and so prevent any further pollution from that source.

Complaints have been received from residents at Strensall as to the unsatisfactory state of the drainage of that village—a matter that has had the consideration of the Council for a considerable period, and has resulted in a drainage scheme being fully prepared for submission to the Local Government Board.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES WHITE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	Rate *					
1898	7,274	142	19.5	12	1.6	133	18.2	58	..	..	..	..
1899	"	151	20.7	13	1.7	171	23.5	86	..	..	..	..
1900	"	128	17.5	13	1.7	142	19.5	66	..	..	..	..
1901	6,924	131	18.9	22	3.1	151	21.8	75	..	..	..	..
1902	"	120	17.3	13	1.8	138	19.9	61	..	..	..	..
1903	"	125	18.0	12	1.7	154	22.2	78	77	3	80	13.0
1904	"	133	19.2	18	2.5	170	24.5	94	94	3	78	11.2
1905	"	148	21.5	16	2.3	153	22.0	84	84	8	76	10.9
1906	"	148	21.5	12	1.7	161	23.2	90	90	9	80	11.5
1907	"	114	16.4	9	1.2	211	30.4	130	130	9	89	12.8
Averages for Years 1898—1907.	7,029	134	18.5	14	1.5	158 ² / ₅	22.4	—	—	—	—	—
1908	6,924	155	22.3	13	1.8 (84)	146	21.0	83	83	7	66	9.5

* * The rates in these columns are calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 30,309.

Total population at all ages, 6,924 ; number of inhabited houses, 1,225 ; average number of persons per house, 5—at Census of 1901.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.
York Fever Hospital. York Smallpox Hospital.
North Biding Asylum.

Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Strensall Camp (for soldiers and their families).

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.
York County Hospital. York Union Workhouse.
Leeds Infirmary (occasionally).

Is the Union Workhouse within the District ? No.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1908 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Names of Localities.	FLAXTON.				DUNNINGTON.				SKELTON.				N.R. ASYLUM (S.)			YORK FEVER HOSPITAL	YORK SMALL-POX HOSPITAL
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths at all Ages.
1898	1,735	46	31	1	1,157	35	17	6	4,101	53	26	5	700	57	0	1	—
1899	"	48	29	5	"	32	21	2	"	59	30	5	"	85	0	1	—
1900	"	49	26	8	"	29	8	0	"	44	36	5	"	59	0	7	—
1901	2,151	49	28	8	1,664	30	21	6	3,109	52	27	7	788	67	1	8	—
1902	"	33	26	5	"	41	19	4	"	46	32	4	"	54	0	7	—
1903	"	41	23	3	"	29	22	5	"	55	31	4	"	61	0	11	6
1904	"	42	26	5	"	34	20	2	"	57	30	11	"	70	0	23	1
1905	"	47	15	3	"	37	21	6	"	64	33	6	"	75	0	9	0
1906	"	39	21	2	"	45	27	7	"	64	23	3	"	78	0	12	0
1907	"	41	30	2	"	20	15	4	"	53	36	3	"	122	0	8	0
Averages of Years 1898 to 1907	2,026½	43½	25½	4½	1511½	33½	19½	4½	3,406½	54½	30½	5½	761½	74½	1½	8½	7½
1908	2,151	43	25	4	1,664	42	14	2	3,109	70	27	7	788	75	0	8	0

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.					Total Cases notified in each Locality.					Number of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.					Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At Ages—Years.					F.	D.	N.R.A. (S.)	F. Hosp. (S.)	F.	D.	N.R.A. (S.)	F.H. (S.)			
	At all Ages.															
	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.											
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ..	15	3	5	3	4	4	—	10	1	2	3	—	1	—	6	
Erysipelas ..	7	—	—	5	2	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	4	
Scarlet Fever ..	5	1	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	
Enteric Fever ..	8	1	1	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS ..	37	5	10	4	16	7	6	15	9	2	5	4	9	—	20	

Isolation Hospitals:—York Fever and Smallpox Hospitals, York County

Hospital (for Typhoid cases occasionally).

North Riding Asylum has its own isolation hospital.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1908.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all Ages of Residents belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.			Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	R.	S.	D.	
Measles	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group) ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2
Epidemic Influenza ..	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Diarrhoea	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	4	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	3	—	17
Other tubercular diseases	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Cancer, malignant disease	6	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	2	1	2
Bronchitis	3	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	1
Pneumonia	6	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	4	2	6
Premature Birth	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
Heart Diseases	8	—	—	1	—	4	3	3	2	3	27
Accidents	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
Suicides	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
All other causes	22	2	1	—	1	2	16	10	8	4	15
All causes	66	12	6	2	3	15	28	25	27	14	83

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1—2 Months.	2—3 Months.	5—6 Months.	8—9 Months.	9—10 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
ALL CAUSES.—Certified..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
COMMON INFECTIOUS DISEASES:										
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
DIARRHOEAL DISEASES:										
Diarrhoea, all forms ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
WASTING DISEASES:										
Premature Birth ..	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Congenital Defects ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Atrophy, Debility. Marasmus ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TUBERCULOUS DISEASES:										
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
OTHER CAUSES:										
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other Causes	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ..	4	1	1	6	1	2	2	1	1	13

Population (estimated to middle of 1908), 6,924.

Births in the year—Legitimate, 151; Illegitimate, 4,

Deaths in the year of Legitimate infants, 13;

Illegitimate infants, no note taken.

Deaths from all causes at all ages, 146.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

1.—INSPECTION.

**INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.**

Premises.			Number of Inspections.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	..	..	12
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	..	..	4
			—
TOTAL	..	..	16
			—

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.	Number of Inspections of Outworkers' premises.
	Lists received from Employers once in the year.	
	Outworkers.	
Wearing Apparel—Making, &c.	1	2

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year	.. 6

